

CD NO.

SUBJECT Activities of S.N. Bogunsky

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SUPPLEMENT TO
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1. S.N. Bogunsky is the salaried agent in Calcutta of V.G. Sayandiants of Soviet Film Distributors, Cine Pictures Building, 20 Haines Road, Mahalaxmi, Bombay. Bogunsky has a bad reputation in Calcutta among motion picture distributors because of his unscrupulous business practices. He entered into an agreement with R.N. Meitra, a young lawyer, and with one Das Gupta to furnish 20 Soviet films over a period of three years on prepayment of 100,000 rupees. The contract stipulated that no refund of payment could be claimed and that the films must be returned to the distributor, Sayandiants, at the end of the specified three years. Of the 20 films received, only four could be used, as the others were in very poor condition. R.N. Meitra and Das Gupta suffered a heavy financial loss as a result.
2. Since the restriction on the purchase and sale of cement, which was a wartime government monopoly, has been relaxed, Bogunsky has been active in attempting to import cement into India from Russia. He has reported that he brought in a shipload of cement in October for the India Supply Agency, 30 Canning Street, and that the shipping agents were Messrs. Chiney Chibany. A young barrister in Calcutta named Modox, the son of S.N. Modak of the Indian Civil Service, entered into a business agreement with Bogunsky with a view to importing cement. In an effort to expedite the issuing of an import license for cement, Modox called at the Office of the General Import Trade Controller. He was informed that a) his application was the fifty-eighth received; b) in previous dealings with Soviet representatives the importers had usually backed out at the last minute; c) Elshin, of the Soviet Trade Agency, who was a signatory to the application, was regarded as an unreliable individual. The Trade Controller's Office also expressed surprise that there was no trade agreement between the USSR and India.
3. One of Bogunsky's files contains correspondence between Bogunsky and the Pacific Products Company, 821 Market Street, San Francisco, in which Bogunsky was asked to find a market for electrical goods and industrial chemicals in India. Although Bogunsky's correspondence is voluminous, business has not matured except in a few cases.

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Tab 6

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